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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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EDITORIAL OPINION

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations are in order for Coach Gordon Bragg and the Appomattox High School Blue Hornets. Although the team lost to Emporia here Saturday night in a regional play-off game, the local boys won the championship of their district and won six of a tough ten game season's schedule.

It is interesting to note that Coach Bragg has never had a losing season in football since he came to Appomattox High School. One year his team broke even; the others he has won more games that he lost. In a business as precarious as that of coaching, his record is truly outstanding. During his regime here, Appomattox won a reputation for fielding well-coached and spirited teams.

A team does not have to win every game to be a credit to its community. It is all the more to the good when a team exemplifies hard play and alertness, and yet wins more than it share of games.

THE CAR MARKET

(Blackstone Courier-Record)

New car stocks in automobile retailers' showrooms in October totaled only about 300,000. This was the lowest inventory of new cars in dealers' hands in several years.

Other reports show that used car lots also had been thinned out. This should mean a healthier situation among automobile retailers in 1955 than was experienced in 1954.

These figures are the basis of predictions in the automobile trade that approximately 5,300,000 units will be sold in 1955. Last year there were estimates that 1954 sales would total as high as 6,000,000 units but this proved over-optimistic and to sell even the smaller total, many dealers this year had to give large discounts and high trade-in allowances.

Faced with the biggest problem in 1955 are the independents, and the Chrysler Corporation, which saw its total sales shrink from 19.7 per cent in the first nine months of 1953 to 11.8 per cent in the same period this year.

None of the independents made money this year, and Chrysler lost money in the third quarter of this year—when it shut down to completely change all its models.

Since Henry Ford II, the president of Ford Motor Company, and General Motors executives have announced their intentions to make their lowest priced car the biggest seller in the nation, a fierce battle between these two widely-modernized cars is in view and another tough year of competition for the independents and Chrysler looms ahead.

The last of the companies to introduce 1955 models will be the Packard Company, which will introduce a completely new line of Packards around the first of December.

Considering the fact that new car inventories are at a low of several years, and that used car inventories are also down, chances for a good year in 1955 are high—especially since so many models are completely new this year. We believe 1955 will be a healthier year for the automobile industry than yas 1954, and if it is not, the American economy will be seriously affected by the continuing plight of the automobile industry.

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DRAMATIZING A POINT

It seems to us that the Roanoke College professor who declined permission for his debating team to take the affirmative side of the question of recognition of Red China, has dramatized a point that is well taken. He took the position that he could not permit his students to engage in a public discussion on that side of a public question, for fear that years later this youthful position might be held against them and bring on investigation.

We believe that the professor had tongue in cheek in taking this stand and that what he really sought was to point the finger of warning to the basic dangers of some of the types of "investigations" witnessed in recent years. A case in mind is that of the reputable young New England attorney, an assistant in the office of Counsel Welch, who was accused of Communist leanings, on not much more appropriate grounds than might be brought up some thirty years later against the college students had they argued for Red China in the recent intercollegiate debate. The Roanoke College professor was just showing how silly investigators can get, and also that if the trend continues, it will be dangerous for a citizen to express his views on any controversial subject. Freedom of speech must be defended.

IT'S THE SAME HERE, TOO

(Garden City, Kans. Telegram)

Last night the P.-T. A. was in session. The junior high was playing football. The Girl Scouts had a meeting after school.

Also on this yeek between dark and daylight in which was once known as the Children's Hour were family night at the church, 4-H meeting, play practice, dance lessons and a football game.

Undoubtedly there were other items, but those are enough to make the point.

The point is that we are loaded. Over-loaded.

All of us have grasped so fiercely after organized activities that we have engaged in a frenetic hunt for self-improvement, or community betterment, or what-have-you. And by so doing have lost the best opportunities to reach those goals.

Those opportunities are found at home.

They are found, for the most part, through inaction. In just doing nothing, except contemplating the fire or stroking the family dog. Man's machine is no different from any other machine, and it must rest occasionally for repairs and oiling. Opportunities are also found in the quiet pursuits of the home. A bowl of popcorn made for no reason except that someone in the family thought it a good idea. A book read. A radio or television program shared. And perhaps even talk, although it is my impression that the American family has all but forgotten how to talk together.

What we all must do is learn again how to say No. A polite No, if you please, but No just the same. No to the clubs and programs and the organizers. This evening we stay at home.

NEW RACKET EVERY DAY

(Winchester Star)

Every day a new racket is exposed. The American people have a penchant for any scheme which seems to offer them a slight advantage over others, and are ready to go for it with little or no thought of the element of law and justice involved.

A new racket has made the headlines in New York City, where motorists have been buying "magic cards" which were supposed to insure them against arrest for violating traffic rules. Hundreds of policemen are alleged to be involved in the racket.

For sums ranging from as little as $2 up to as high as $20 in some cases, motorists bought the magic cards. Stopped for a highway violation, they showed the card to the cop and, presumably, were permitted to go on their way to the next offence. Money received from sale of the cards allegedly was divided among the men involved in the racket.

A curious feature of the story is the fact that the average citizen will go to any length to avoid a penalty for traffic violations. He may be upright and honest in all other respects, but he resents police intereference in operation of his automobile.

LAUGHING MATTER

(Walter Davenport in Collier's)

A traffic violator, spoken to mildly but firmly by a Florida cop, was very irate. He told the cop he was from New Jersey and that never never again would be come below Mason and Dixon's line. The cop smiled pleasantly, snatched the fellow's hand, shook it heartily and said, "Permit me, sir, to thank you on behalf of the entire South."

MOUNTAINS OF CARDS

(Winchester Star)

This year Americans will purchase more than 1,750,000,000 Christmas cards. And there are more than 30,000 different designs to choose from.

These figures were supplied by the National Association of Greeting Card Publishers, which gave a prevue of what yill be on the shelves this year.

There's a definite trend toward Christmas cards which are classical in conception, the association reports. "It's most apparent in designs with a religious theme, but actually those that illustrate familiar Christmas carols, legends and customs are all in the same vein."

Faultless masterpieces such as Botticelli's "Madonna of the Figs," and "The Holy Family" by Francesco Mancini were once seen only in museums and salons. Now they along with others by Raphael, Correggio, Mignard and Feruzzi, have become perennial Christmas card favorites.

Religious designs and verses are in greater demand this season than at any time since World War II. One series features dramatic Biblical scenes, and each card contains a packet of sand from the Holy Land.

Traditional themes—'holly on the door, carol singing, church bells ringing, trees and lights and more" as one card rhymes it—are especially popular on greetings with family and special titles.

This last group now includes 60 per cent of all the nation's Yule cards.

COMPETITIVE

(George Fuermann in Houston Post)

Memo posted at the Pappas Refrigeration Co. in Houston: TO ALL EMPLOYEES. Due to increased competition and a desire to stay in business, we find it necessary to institute a new policy. We are asking that somewhere between starting and quitting time, and without infringing too much on the time usually devoted to Lunch Periods, Coffee Breaks, Rest Periods, Story Telling, Ticket Selling, Vacation Planning and the re-hashing of yesterday's TV programs, each employee endeavor to find some time that can be set aside and known as the "Work Break."

IRRIGATION MAY BOOST PROFITS FOR DAIRYMEN

Pasture irrigation may be well worth while for the dairyman.

Dr. W. A. Hardison, dairy researcher at VPI Agricultural Experiment Station, says that data on one pasture season showed that irrigation resulted in an 83% increase in the number of cow-days on pasture, a 77% increase in the pounds of 4% milk produced per acre, and a 77% increase in the total pounds of 4% milk produced.

It would have required about 7½ tons of alfalfa hay to supply the necessary total digestible nutrients to produce this extra milk.

Dr. Hardison sounds a word of caution in applying these results to practical farm conditions. The data are too limited for definite conclusions, and the test was conducted during an extremely dry season. The benefits which might be expected from irrigation in a normal pasture season are not represented in the test.

Furthermore, because of the cost involved, irrigation of pasture land should be considered seriously only after strict attention has been given to the proper seeding of adopted varieties of grasses and legumes adequate fertilization, and proper grazing management.

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons
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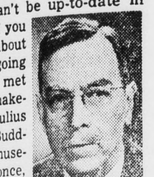
Scripture: Psalms 46; 142. Devotional Reading: Psalm 77:1-14.

Time of Trouble

Lesson for November 28, 1954


Dr. Foreman

...E is nothing modern about ...ble. Nothing old-fashioned ... You can't be up-to-date in ...tury if you know about ...bles going ... If you met ... Shake... and Julius ... and Budd... Methuse... at once, ... thing you ... all talk ... and under... one another perfectly (pro... you spoke the same lan...) ... is Trouble.

...have nothing to fear ex... fear itself," said a great ... President. That is ... true, but only when ... is nothing really to be ... of. At any rate, ever ... the human race began, people ... been afraid both of what ... likely to happen and what ... ely to happen. They have ... afraid of what was really ... and afraid of ghosts born ... own imaginations. Fear ... all bad; when it is no more ... knowing the danger exists, ... good thing. It is good to ... that poisons hurt, that there ... ditch across the highway, ... curve ahead is a sharp ... healthy fear of such things ... and keeps us alive. But ... fear which is paralysis, ... flies in the stomach," first ... to panic; and this kind ... only adds to whatever ... or trouble there may be. ... we can read, in Psalm 46, ... poet's pointed words about ... and it is plain that men in ... time had the same terrors ... selves. One feels here the ... of violent change; and is ... exactly that, under its current ... of communism, what we are ... of in our time? One feels ... Psalm also the dread of ... and in our times with the ... b and the C-bomb threat... us—not just the boys that ... war, but every man, wom... child on the planet—who ... sleep with an easy mind?

...ness

...her kind of trouble is lone... Psalm 142 brings this out; ... writer felt that no one was ... side, no one even cared ... he lived or died. He ... too of the worst kind of ...ess—or one of the most ... kinds—that is to say, be... prison. We should re... always that there are in ... world today an estimated ... million refugees, that is to ... people who have literally no ... and are, perhaps for the ... their lives, strangers in ... lands, people who live ... barbed wire, people no... wants. We cannot forget the ... of others who would per... rather be refugees, if they ... than live where and as ... have to live, as slaves of ... police state, under the lash ... masters from whom there ... appeal. But even if all the ... governments in the world ... abolished tonight; even if ... millions of refugees found ... and shelter; there still ... be as there have always ... millions who could echo the ...'s plaint, "No man cared ... soul." Loneliness—the first ... knew it, on dark hunted ... in a wilderness they did ... understand and could not yet ... the last men will know ... a dark hunted day among ... skyscrapers fleeing vainly ... invisible poisons of the ... active air. And in between ... men and the last, where ... human being who has not ... time or other felt himself ... and alone?

Our Help in Trouble

... Psalm-writers knew all ... and yet they could sing. ... sang because above all the ... of time they kept touch ... the eternal God. "He will ... they said. How does God ... believer in time of trou... does not always help by ... an umbrella of miracle ... heads of the saints. Not ... Jesus was without tears and ... Read these Psalms to ... God was their "help in ... past" as he is "for years to ... Men of faith, they were ... rise under their troubles, ... and courage through con... with the God of all. They ... as we sometimes forget, ... God made this world, that ... all His, that above all earth... ... in His sovereign power; ... His own time, in His own ... His will be the victory.

(... outlines copyrighted by the ... of Christian Education, National ... of the Churches of Christ ... U. S. A. Released by Community ... Service.)

Homemakers Items

There are many ways to put household aluminum foil to work for you in your kitchen.

The home demonstration agent suggests wrapping aluminum foil over the top of trays of homemade ice cream so the ice cream will freeze without picking up refrigerator odors. Use it to wrap leftovers, cover refrigerator dishes, and opened jelly glasses. Use it to cover custards, brown breads, or plum pudding that you steam in your pressure saucepan. And the extra-heavy foil makes an excellent freezer wrap.

Many homemakers use the foil in their ovens to catch any possible runover of food. It saves lots of scouring and oven clean-up. If you use foil in the oven, there are a few precautions. Use a piece of foil only slightly larger than the pie pan or baking dish, turn up the edges and place it on a rack directly under the pan or dish.

If you cover the entire bottom of your oven with foil, it will cut off the circulation of heat and prevent proper cooking. And the heat given off by electric units or gas burners may be reflected by the foil causing the units to overheat.

Another precaution — foil should never touch open heating wires in any electric appliance. It's likely to cause a short circuit.

Freeze Eggs For Home Use

How many times have you wished you could stock enough eggs when they're cheap to last through the high-price months.

Since eggs are generally selling lower than a year ago, you may be interested in how to freeze eggs, as suggested by the home demonstration agent.

First, use only fresh, clean, sound, chilled eggs. Break each egg in a small bowl to make sure it has no off-odor before mixing it with the other eggs.

Stir the eggs with a fork or a low-speed mixer just enough to break all the yolks and to mix them well with the whites without letting in too much air.

The whites, when packaged separately, can be frozen without stirring and with nothing added.

Whole eggs and yolks, however should be treated with an anti-coagulating agent to prevent guminess in the thawed yolk substance. For this purpose, use one tablespoon of sugar, corn syrup, or honey or add one teaspoon of salt to every cup of yolk. For each two cups of liquid whole eggs, add one tablespoon sugar, corn syrup or honey, or one-half teaspoon salt.

CLARKE AGENT WINS CONTEST

Bill B. Gregory, Clarke County agricultural agent, has been named 1954 winner of a contest sponsored by the VPI animal husbandry department aimed at increasing the number of purebred livestock sires in Virginia.

With 78 purebred bull, ram, and boar sires, Gregory topped the other agents competing, followed by Augusta, Wythe, Pulaski, Green Smyth, Goochland, Amherst, Culpeper, Washington, Rappahannoch and Frederick, in the order named.

Curtis Mast, animal husbandman at VPI, reports a total of 538 sires placed in the 12 counties competing.

Gregory, who is now completing his first year as agent in Clarke, receives a trip to the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago this week and next.

Mast explains that the contest is based on livestock population and is set up to give all counties in the state an equal chance to win. Last year Goochland, one of the smallest counties in the state, was top; and it has been previously won by Augusta, one of the largest.

TOPDRESS PASTURES FOR TOP YIELDS

Pasture topdressing pays.

John F. Shoulders, associate agronomist at VPI, says topdressing pastures with complete fertilizer will help them make a quick comeback from drouth or overgrazing, if they still have at least a 50% stand of desirable grasses and legumes.

Be sure the soil tests above pH 6.0. If it doesn't, apply enough lime to raise it to that point, or over.

Bluegrass pastures which have been weakened should receive 30 to 50 pounds of nitrogen, 80 to 120 pounds of phosphoris acid, and 60 to 80 pounds of potash per acre, applied this winter or in early spring.

If pasture stands are vigorous and contain a mixture of white clover and bluegrass, an application of 900 to 1200 pounds per acre of 0-16-8, or its equivalent, each three or four years, should be enough to maintain a productive and profitable pasture.

Farmers may qualify for as much as $8 per acre through the agricultural conservation program by properly topdressing permanent pastures. This amounts to cutting your pasture fertilizer costs almost in half. Check with your local ASC office on cost-sharing in pasture fertilization.

Shoulders also reminds farmers that now is a good time to get soil samples and plan your spring fertilization program. Following soil test recommendations is the best way to take the guess-work out of fertilizing. See your county agent or other agricultural workers for information on taking soil samples.

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WEIGHT LOSS IS DANGEROUS IN EWES DUE TO LAMB

Ewes that lose weight during late pregnancy are easy victims of lambing paralysis.

George A. Allen, Jr., associate animal husbandman at VPI, says a ewe should gain 25 to 30 pounds from the time she is bred until she lambs. About half of this gain should be made during the last month before lambing.

The best way to insure the proper gain is to feed each ewe from ¼ to ½ pounds of grain and 3 to 4 pounds of legume hay a day, beginning a month before lambing. If the sheep are on good winter pasture the amount of grain and hay may be reduced.

Another danger for ewes due to lamb is vitamin A deficiency, especially in sections of Virginia which were unusually dry this past summer and fall.

Symptoms of the deficiency are blindness, a watery discharge from the eyes, and still-born or weak lambs that die sohrtly after birth. Green pasture and green, lefy legume hay are the best sources of vitamin A. If good legume hay cannot be fed for about a month ahead of lambing, it would probably be wise to feed a vitamin A supplement.

Allen also reminds sheep producers to treat all sheep during late fall to control worms. Drenching the entire flock with phenothiazine is the best means of control. Worm-free sheep are healthier, make better use of feed, and make more money.

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